(b) It is the considered view of the Government that this issue can be resolved in a spirit of mutual accommodation by building a national consensus.

Vacancies for SC/STs in office of the Development Commissioner, Delhi Administration

1855. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1031 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th July, 1989 and state:

(a) the reasons for which the nominations were arranged by the Employment Exchange of eligible candidates and same were interviewed later on when matter was already *sub-judice* with the Central Administrative Tribunal;

(b) what is the present vacancies position of SC/ST i.e. what is the total number of vacancies belonging to SC/ST and how many SC/ST candidates were put to work on *ad-hoc* basis/Daily-wages against these regular vacancies; and

(c) what is the latest fate of this whole case?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI HOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) to (c) 19 posts of Horticulture Assistants/ Plant Protection Assistants which were required to be filled on regular basis through direct recruitment were notified to the Employment Exchange on 5th December, 1988 and interview letters issued to candidates on 16-2-89 for 6th, 7th and 8th March 1989. Offers of appointment were not, however, issued to the selected candidates because of the stay order given by the Central Administrative Tribunal on 1-3-89. Of the 19 posts, 3 were reserved for Sch. Castes and 2 for Sch. Tribes. The posts are being manned by *ad-hoc* appointees who have obtained stay. None of these *ad-hoc* appointees belongs to Sch. Castes and Sch. Tribes. The matter is still *sub-judice*. Further action will be taken in the light of the decision of the Tribunal.

Disconnection of Telephones on Account of Non-Payment

1856. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of telephones disconnected on account of non-payment of dues during the last two years, circle wise;

(b) the number of disconnected telephones restored during the above period; and

(c) the number of complaints received about the faulty service of telephones during the period:

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) The information has been called for from the field units and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Delay in filling up vacancies

1857. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies lying in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting during the years 1988-89 and during the current financial year;

(b) what are the reasons for the delay in filling up these vacancies; and

(c) the details of remedial measures taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Transfers of Station Directors and News Directors of Doordarshan

1858. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Station Directors and News Directors of Doordarshan transferred during December, 1989 to 5th March, 1990;

(b) the duration of the stay of these officials prior to their recent transfers; and

(c) whether there is any policy followed for transfers in the AIR and Doordarshan ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) Five Directors of Doordarshan Kendras and one Director of News were transferred during December, 1989 to 5th March, 1990. Stay of concerned officers is given below.

1. Shri K. M. A. Haq, Doordarshan Kendra, Bangalore—from April 1989 to March, 1990.

2. Shri R. S. Rawat, Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi—from November, 1988 to March, 1990.

3. Shri D. Balakrishna, Doordarshan Kendra, Hyderabad—from April 1989 to March 1990.

4. Shri R. Mahadevan, Doordarshan Kendra, Madras—from April, 1989 to March, 1990.

5. Shri G. K. Saxena, Central Production Centre, Delhi—from May, 1988 to February, 1990.

6. Shri Harish Avasthi, Director News—from 19th May, 1988 to 28-2-1990.

(c) Transfers are made in accordance with the provisions as laid down in the Transfer Policy keeping in view *inter-alia* the exigencies of service and public interest.

Construction of Vypin—Ernakulam Bridge

1859. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to take up the construction of Vypin—Ernakulam bridge during the Eighth Plan; and

(b) if so, what is the estimated expenditure for the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) The State Government have sought central assistance for the project whose cost has been estimated by them at Rs. 24.40 crores. It is felt that the cost estimates are not realistic. Government are convinced that the construction of the bridge is vital for the development of the area. The possibility of financing this under the existing schemes of central assistance to States or under alternative means of financing are under consideration